

SHEEP & GOAT HAIR SAMPLE COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS



1 Check the ear tag number of the animal, and record it on the hair sample envelope. Clean the sample area to remove dirt or other contaminants.

Use bent nose, long nose or needle nose pliers to collect the sample.



2 Pull a tuft of hair from the leg, just above the toes. Pull the hair directly away from the skin, NOT at an angle. This will allow the root to come out with the hair. Take at least three pulls.



3 Inspect the hairs sample to ensure at least 40 hair follicles or roots. The roots are easy to see in goats (like human hairs with a bulb at the end), but difficult in sheep. In sheep, you may notice a color variation which indicates that the root is intact.

Note: Do NOT cut the hair from the animal. The hair MUST CONTAIN ROOTS for DNA testing. Avoid touching the roots and make sure the hair is dry



4 Place the sample in the hair sample envelope, and then seal the envelope in the presence of the exhibitor and parent/supervisor. Do not put hairs in a plastic bag.



5 Fill out the remaining information lines on the envelope, and have the witnesses sign.



6 REMEMBER: Cleanse hands and pliers between animal samples to ensure that hairs from different animals are not mixed.

SHEEP & GOAT SAMPLE CHECKLIST

- ✓ Select collection area - we suggest above toes
- ✓ Record ear tag number on the envelope
- ✓ Obtain at least 40 hairs with follicles
- ✓ Take at least 3 pulls
- ✓ Inspect for follicles – do not touch follicles
- ✓ Obtain exhibitor signature & seal envelope
- ✓ Clean pliers and hands between animals